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THURSDAY
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g TIME TO SETTLE DOWN

5 YEARS ON ROAD / 1AA

Sports GIRLS BASKETBALL
PUTS KVC TITLE IN NET / 1B

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

With the trophy for their second state championship title in two years raised high, the Novi High boys' cross country team takes a victory lap around their school on Monday afternoon.

Cross country team races away with second championship

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

With the recent construction of trophy cases aligning the Novi High School gymnasium, the boys' cross country team wasted no time in going out and getting some new hardware to show off.

The Wildcats returned home from the Class-A state meet as the best in the state, champions for the second-straight year. Novi did so by knocking off number-one ranked Rockford, who was all but sure they'd avenge Novi's triumph from a year ago.

Sophomore Tim Moore led the charge with a third-place finish overall. Junior Chris Toloff followed that up with a seventh-place finish and both Mark Avenue (17th) and Eric Walle (22nd) also earned all-state honors.

Asked if this title was sweeter

than last year's, Novi coach Bob Smith answered with a sincere "yes."

"It was. Deep down last year I thought we were comparable with Rockford," he explained.

"This year we matched up as well, but I just had a strange feel-

ing about it."

Many expected Novi to be a major contender next year, not this year.

"We will be the best returning team in the state next season," said Walle, a junior. "But you've still got to perform. We want to

win next year ever more than this year. I don't want to go out and finish second as a senior after winning these last two years."

For more stories and pictures of Novi's state championship, please turn to page two in the sports section.

Mayor Clark,
new council
take the oathBy JEREMY MCBAIN
Staff Writer

You don't typically hear a crowd cheer at a Novi City Council meeting, but it happened Monday night.

That's when three newly-elected Novi city council members and the mayor were sworn into office by judges from the 52-1 District Court. The audience was packed into the council chambers.

Before taking the oath, Mayor Richard Clark said he felt very grateful and humble.

"I am going to do my best to live up to the expectations, responsibilities and trust the citizens of Novi have placed in me," Clark said.

Returning Council Member Craig DeRoche said it felt great to be at the swearing-in ceremony after an incredibly "intense" campaign.

"Everyone I talked to started off by asking if I was an incumbent. When I said yes, I saw their interest drain and had to explain I was different," he said.

New Council Member Michelle Bononi said she was "very satisfied" to be on the council.

"I did my very best to do the job the people who live here want. My goal is to represent them in the best way I can," she said.

New Council Member Louis Csordas, the former chair of the Novi Planning Commission, also said he felt very honored to be at the ceremony, but he added he was realizing the tremendous responsibility he was undertaking.

"I do public speaking and rarely do I get nervous, but I have a twinge in my stomach," he said before the ceremony.

Before swearing-in Clark, 52-1 District Judge

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Above, in front center, Mayor Dick Clark and wife Diane with supporters. Also in front from left, Asa and Carol Smith, Pat Holt and Ruth Elrod. Back row, from left, Ken Szczypka, Mary Muller and David Landry. At left, Judge Dennis Powers swears in Clark as wife, Diane, looks on. More election-related stories on pages 10 to 13.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

City investigates
sewage dumping
at DPW propertyBy JEREMY MCBAIN and
B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writers

Novi city officials are taking steps to clean up the Department of Public Works yard, following the dumping of sewage on the property in late October.

In the meantime, minutes of a Nov. 5 meeting between DPW Foreman Tom Lovelady and Assistant City Manager Craig Klaver indicate that city employees were routinely dumping solid sewage wastes on another section of the DPW property as recently as two years ago.

The minutes of the meeting state: "...prior to two years ago it was standard practice to dump materials that were extracted from the sewer lines by the Vactor Vacuum System. When the (Sewer and Water) Department received notice that there was a back-up the crews were sent out to the site, the sewer line was vacuumed out and the material (liquid and solid) was stored in the vactor. The crew would then return to the DPW site where the liquids were drained from the truck into the sewer line located on the premises. The solids were then dumped

on the property that was allocated for the new fire station number one site."

Klaver confirmed the minutes were correct and said the site in question is immediately off Eleven Mile Road, about 200 yards east of Delwal.

He said he was very confident no one has dumped any materials on the site in the last two years because it has been chained off. Klaver said the previous private owners of the site also used it as a dumping ground before the city bought the property.

Following the most recent dumping incident, Director of Public Services Anthony Nowicki said soil and water samples were taken from the area to be studied. Before those results came back Monday, city crews installed a silt fence around the dumping site to catch any contaminated materials before any flow into the flood plane or Bishop Creek.

"We are looking at having a work plan prepared to remove all of that material and disposing of it properly," Nowicki said.

A city employee told the *The*

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In today's issue

HomeTown
Extra
Newspapers

A special section ...

DREAM
HOMESMentally ill make friends
at new Comfort ZoneBy WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

"You know how the rich have their social clubs? Well, this is ours."

That's Director Brenda Hoffman's take on the Comfort Zone Drop-in center. The center, located at 39575 Ten Mile Road in Novi, serves the social and recreational needs of some of the county's mentally ill residents.

Open since June, the center's 100-plus "consumers" are referred from local mental health agencies and other counselors and doctors. At the Comfort Zone they can find solace, a listening ear and a lot of stuff to do.

"When we got sick we became so disillusioned, afraid of the world. We closed ourselves off from the world," explained Hoffman, who is herself manic depressive.

"This is a place we can come out with-out stigma."

Within the center's walls, are various areas sectioned off for arts and crafts, computer use, shooting pool, pingpong, reading in the library and chatting in the comfy couch and coffee table area. There's also refreshments on hand (and hot meals in the future), board games to play and karaoke in the kitchen.

The center even has shower facilities for "consumers" who need to use them. As Hoffman explained, some of the members survive on Social Security or other small means and can really use a place to clean up and feel better. The center's staff of Hoffman and four others can even throw a load of clothes in the washing machine.

Transportation is available upon request with a two-day notice.

The center is funded by the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority and affiliated with Mercy Net.

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

After a game of cards at Novi's Comfort Zone, Heather Hanking hugs Director Brenda Hoffman.

Community Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 11

Veterans' Day

Nov. 11 is Veterans' Day. The Novino News will have a special feature.

Novi Rotary

The Novi Rotary Club meets at noon at the Novi United Methodist Church, 11421 Ten Mile Road. For information, contact Bob Lambright at (248) 349-0400.

TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Meadows Clubhouse, 34900 W. 10 Mile Road. For more information, call after 6 p.m. at (248) 349-0400.

Friday, Nov. 12

The Novi Theatres

The Novi Theatres Little People Players presents "The Golden Goose" at 7 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center State, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For information, call 347-0400.

Saturday, Nov. 13

The Novi Theatres

The Novi Theatres Little People Players presents "The Golden Goose" at 7 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center State, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For information, call 347-0400.

Sunday, Nov. 14

The Novi Theatres

The Novi Theatres Little People Players presents "The Golden Goose" at 7 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center State, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For information, call 347-0400.

Monday, Nov. 15

ABWA

The Novi Oaks Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, at 42100 Crescent Blvd. Social hours set at 6 p.m., and dinner is served at 7 p.m. Meetings are open to all working women. For reservations, call Audrey Gully at (248) 349-0400.

Weekend show at Expo Center features horsey set

If you liked "My Friend Fluke," you'll stampede the North American Horse Spectacular at the Novi Expo Center on Nov. 12 through 14.

This over-the-top event brings the grace and charm of the horse set industry indoors. More than 20 different breeds of horses will be on site all three days. It's a chance to see and learn about many, each bred for a specific purpose, as well as enjoy watching all that horse-flesh perform in the indoor arena.

Special guests of the North American Horse Spectacular are Suzanne D'Arcy, president and founder of Hobby Horse Clothing Co., and Kenny Harlow, nationally recognized horse trainer. Suzanne will present her seminar on "Winning Colors." She will explain how to determine the colors that will show both rider and horse to the best advantage.

The show also features a special kids activity area with educational fun and games, hosted by the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council and free carousel rides.

Hours are: Nov. 12 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults; 12 and under free. Parking is only \$5 per day.

For more information, call (800) 878-5131.

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(248) 624-1718. For membership information, call Bette Johnson at (248) 960-9559.

Cholesterol Screening

Total cholesterol screening by finger-stick method, will be offered from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Botolph Center for Health Improvement-Health Development Network, 32750 Grand River Ave. Cost is \$5 fee. For more information call (248) 477-6109.

Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters

The Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters Club meets from 7-9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile. For more information call Tom Lahiff at (248) 348-6019 (evenings). Visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, Nov. 16

Garden Club

The Novi Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Civil Air Patrol

The Sixstar Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, meets at Novi Middle School, 25299 Tall Rd., from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adults and youths who have finished the sixth grade are welcome. For additional information, call (248) 349-2669.

The Novi Concert Band rehearses at Novi High School at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (248) 932-9244.

Chess Club

The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmiller, (248) 344-4269 evenings after 6 p.m.

Bereavement Support Group

A bereavement support group meets at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Rd., from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The meeting will be facilitated by Dr. M. Meyer. There will be a brief prayerful reflection during the meeting by a member of the clergy from the area.

Optimist Club

The Novi Optimist Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Big Boy Restaurant on Novi Road, across from the Novi Town Center.

Hazardous Waste Day set for Saturday

Residents of the cities of Novi, Farmington, Farmington Hills, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake, and Wixom will have a regional Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day on Saturday, Nov. 13 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Novi Department of Public Works.

The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County is coordinating the event. There will be a 10-gallon limit per car. Items that will not be accepted include motor oil, car batteries, latex paint, and explosives. The Authority has local recycling outlets and alternative disposal guidelines for these items.

The Authority is encouraging residents to bring to the event for proper disposal items such as oil-based paint, pesticides, herbicides, cleaners, fluorescent light bulbs and other common household chemicals from their homes, garages and workshops.

Grand Opening Friday Nov. 19
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LET'S TALK

Jewelry

WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN
GEMOLOGIST

DAZZLING, DANGLING EARRINGS

The first pair of earrings with which women adorn their newly pierced ears are a simple pair of gold studs. After that, they are likely to upgrade to elegant diamond studs or other precious gemstone earrings. Certainly, these pieces are part of a wise accumulation strategy for a basic jewelry wardrobe, but the big news in earrings this season involves drop earrings. These long, shoulder-skimming earrings are favored for the ethnic look that they bring to wardrobes. Whether they incorporate diamonds, semiprecious stones, or beads, these long-strapped earrings are the au courant definition of chic. The more exotic the look, the more preferable the earrings in today's fashion scene.

The important thing to keep in mind when it comes to buying gemstones or jewelry, such as earrings, is that one

should choose a true professional, one who knows and loves his art. For anyone not totally familiar with fine jewelry and gemstones, knowing and having confidence in his jeweler is of the utmost importance. Here at WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, we are your area "go-to" professionals. Most major credit cards accepted. We are now licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry. We are "The name you know, the name you trust."

P.S. Enamel is also quite in vogue at the moment for earrings.

Novi Expo Center Show

The Detroit International Festival runs today through Nov. 18 at the Novi Expo Center. For information, call (248) 348-5600.

Wednesday, Nov. 17

Planning Commission

The Novi Planning Commission will meet in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

Thursday, Nov. 18

Novi Rotary

The Novi Rotary Club meets at noon at the Novi United Methodist Church at (167) Ten Mile Road. For information, contact Bob Lambright at (248) 350-6500.

Novi School Board

The Novi School Board meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Orchard Hills Elementary School. For information, call (248) 449-1200.

Walled Lake School Board

The Walled Lake School Board meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Center. For information, call (248) 956-2000.

TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Meadows Clubhouse on Napier Road. For more information, call after 6 p.m. (248) 344-2167.

Parks and Recreation Commission

The Novi Parks and Recreation Commission will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

Novi Expo Center Show

The Greensburg Great Train and Collectibles Show runs today through Nov. 21 at the Novi Expo Center. For information, call (248) 348-5600.

Residents of the participating communities will be required to show proof of residency at the entrance of the Novi DPW, which is located on DelWal Drive. DelWal goes north off of Eleven Mile Road, between Meadowbrook and Town Center. Participants should follow the recycling center signs from the

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Bluesfest, 50s Festival may get new makeovers

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

Hot summer nights may seem a far distance away, but organizers from Novi's two hottest summer festivals are in the middle of redesigning the events.

The International Bluesfest may become more than blues and the other local event for the time could be referred to as the "Festival Formerly Known as the Michigan 50s Festival."

50s Fest Manager Jane Thomas said the organizers are looking at revamping the entertainment line-up, as well as the side of the summer bash.

"One of the things we needed to do was change the name," Thomas said.

"We are also in the process of finalizing contracts of the entertainers and carnival rides."

Thomas said two acts have already been booked. Eddie Money will headline Wednesday night's show and Peter Nott and Hermand's Hermit will close the Friday

night show. "We are still going to have the car show, the OmniPoint Grand Prix and the carnival," she said.

"We are trying to add a new twist on things — we are going to increase the entertainment area and have a much broader range of entertainment."

Thomas added the entertainment tent will be open in the evening for all age groups and there will be individual tickets and packages available for interested attendees.

Whatever the outcome, the redesigned festival is slated for July 26-30 at the Novi Expo Center.

The Bluesfest International is planned for the weekend of July 21-23, also at the Expo Center.

Bluesfest organizer Craig Bender said even with attendance figures continuing to grow, the financial outcome for the organizers has not been as desired.

"We haven't decided yet on what we are going to do next year," Bender said.

"We had a spectacular crowd last year, but we are not where we wanted it to be as far as money. There has been some internal problems — a lot of the economic problems have been our own fault."

Bender added that as independent promoters, the organizers don't work on booking the talent throughout the year.

The world's only international blues festival (the same weekend as Novi's Bluesfest International) Windsor plays host to a companion event, sponsors still want to participate but changes may be made to the all-blues musical lineup, he explained.

"We are considering a musical-type change but the partners haven't gotten together yet," Bender said.

"Right now we are not signing any bands. We are not sure where we are going to go with it."

B.J. Hammerstein's email is bhammerstein@ht.homecom.net.

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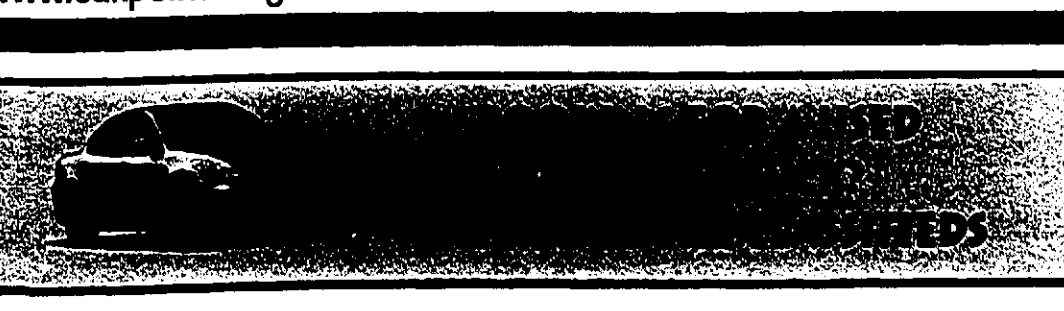
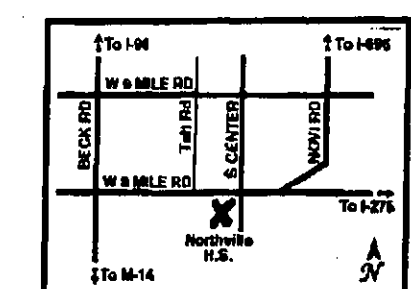


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Opening books for everyone

Border's Novi Community Relations person, Monique Herzog, left, is joined by the Novi Public Library's Margie Karpssperer, Mindy Schaefer and Jennifer Taggart as the Novi bookstore handed over a \$1,200 check to the library to be

used to purchase books for kids. Border's, looking to promote literacy nationally and locally, has developed "Open Books for Children Project" and has been taking donations at their registers for the effort.

Truck fines go to libraries, road repairs, courts

The Michigan House of Representatives recently approved legislation requiring that funds received from truck traffic violations be dedicated to libraries, road repairs and local enforcement units.

The division of funds was made possible by an amendment offered by state Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Noti. The amendment earmarks 40 percent of the funds for libraries, 30

percent for funding local road repairs and the remaining 30 percent for local courts.

"I wanted to make sure the money is used to its full potential," Cassis said.

This amendment links trucks to roads and provides funding to libraries so they can continue the excellent services they provide to communities."

Legislation enacted in 1994, allowed local townships and cities to create their own local enforcement units for truck weight limit and other violations. This package clarifies the legislative intent of securing additional funding for local libraries, as well as linking trucks to roads.

The measures await senate approval.

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SALE ENDS 11/17/99

Teachers learn to use computers in the classroom



By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

Dave Cosman arrived to class at Nov High School a little early Monday night and hopped right online.

Cosman, like many students is using the Internet more and more, but unlike many students, Cosman is a sixth-grade teacher at Nov Meadows. He's enrolled in a class designed to meet the needs of teachers interested in providing the best use of the Internet for their classrooms.

Taught by Nov High Social Studies Chair Gary Kelly, Teach for Tomorrow was conceived by educators and created to expose teachers to good online resources.

"There is a complete module of activities and lessons that begins at being real generic, but through the course the teachers are able to make it more specific to their own classes," Kelly said.

"The teachers can take it right to the kids ready-to-use. There has been immediate feedback and all things have been found real useful."

Kelly said he took the week-long training course last June in Walled Lake and will continue to go to follow up classes about Teach for Tomorrow.

With 10 students enrolled in this semester's class, Kelly said the course is part of an extended learning program through Central Michigan University. Upon completion students will earn three graduate hours of credit.

Christy Fossbakk, Nov Middle School support teacher for special education

"We are learning how to better utilize this valuable resource."

Gary Kelly,
Teach for Tomorrow

ing, independent and group learning and Internet training.

Teach for Tomorrow, Kelly added, will be offered again next semester and is hoping more people, including community members and educators, will show interest in the invaluable class.

"People can go to the website, register and learn about the course and go through the modules," Kelly said.

"With many people having home computers, this class extends well beyond the classroom."

During Monday's course, Kelly helped the student-teachers learn about the program Composer and how Internet bookmarks can be easily arranged to further enhance learning and lesson plans.

As an added bonus upon completion of the course, each student-teacher will leave with a portfolio of the work they have completed through the semester specifically tailored to each student-teacher's curriculum and lesson plan.

"This is much more than just playing on the computer," Cosman said.

"There is a lot of additional information we are learning, this is a strong educational tool and a great resource experience."

To learn more about the Teach for Tomorrow visit the website at <http://tft.merli.edu>.

B.J. Hammerstein's e-mail address is bhammerstein@tft.homecom.net.

Novi High School Social Studies Chair Gary Kelly, right, talks to Dave Cosman, a Nov Meadows 6th grade teacher.

Kelly teaches Monday evening computer classes to other teachers at the high school, who receive graduate credit.

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Sports Club hits one year

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN

Star-Knee

In its first year of operations, the Sports Club of Novi is shaping up to be more than just a fitness facility.

For many, it's a social club, too.

The facility next to the Novi Ice Arena celebrated its first anniversary with an open house and member appreciation day on Oct. 9 and on the following day, a team of 33 from the club participated in the City of Hope's "Walk for Hope Against Breast Cancer."

Aerobic instructor Debbie Nuttle said employees and members of the club worked hard and raised \$1,600 for the fight against breast cancer.

"We have many members who are breast cancer survivors and friends and family of people who have dealt with it," Nuttle said.

"The event coincided with our one year anniversary and the community has supported us so well, it just seemed like a great way to give something back."

Going beyond their expectations,

Nuttle said the \$1,600 raised was much more than the \$500 they thought they were going to collect during the walk. In another surprise, the team was awarded the "Team Spirit Award" for their contagious enthusiasm and rendition of their own "Walking Song."

Back at the club, Nuttle and the walking team gathered together to videotape the "Walking Song" and submit it to "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" in hopes of fame and fortune.

But for the rest of the members and employees, it is back to the gymnasiums, tennis, martial arts, swimming and dance, which is the backbone of the Sports Club of Novi.

Managing partner Mark Pinchoff said the 130 employees and the establishment has been successful in its first year, as the fitness membership has doubled from 900 to 1,800 members.

"There are about 3,000 families who have some kind of membership here and another 2,000 who are doing sports," Pinchoff said.

"You can come in here and do what you want as a non-member or you come in here and participate in five sports. It has grown faster than we anticipated."

The family-oriented sport facility has day care, pools and is now offering classes in the Pilates.

Instructor Katerina Garin said the muscle lengthening and strengthening came from the teachings of Joseph Pilates.

"The key to this whole new exercise is protecting the natural curves of the spine," Garin said.

"The exercise will lift you up, make the muscles longer and leaner and give you more strength."

As new programs are implemented and growth continues, Pinchoff said the staff and members are becoming closer during the second year.

"It has been a very pleasant surprise," Pinchoff said.

"Everyone knows each other here. This is truly a community-family club."

B.J. Hammerstein's e-mail is bhammerstein@tft.homecom.net.



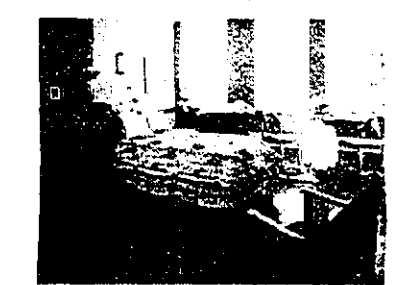
As they are videotaped by Linda DeNeen, a group of Novi Sports Club employees sings a song about the importance of breast cancer awareness that they will submit to the Rosie O'Donnell Show. The group is led by Debbie Nuttle at far left.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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It's official, Novi's new city council is on the job



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A new title for Laura Lorenzo, chosen by Clark Monday for his mayor pro tem



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the NOVI
NEWS

Opinions

14A
THURSDAY
November 11,
1999

As We See It

When bad things happen to good cities

In late October, just days before the election, *The Novi News* received an interesting call from a city of Novi Department of Public Works employee who alleged that sewage was dumped on the DPW yard. The employee claimed this happened several times.

He said he was very concerned about the impact on the environment and had also tipped off the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

The Novi News contacted the Oakland County Health Department, which suggested the name of an independent laboratory to test water collected at the site. That was done and the tests showed an extremely elevated level of E. coli bacteria.

The reporters then telephoned City Manager Ed Kriewall and Department of Public Services Director Tony Nowicki for comment on the employee's allegations.

Did the city immediately cover it up? Deny the incident? Attempt to discredit the employee? No, not at all. As far as we can tell, all the right things are being done.

First, the city launched its own investigation into the matter and confirmed that the release of sewage had occurred.

Erosion fencing was put up around the site, to block more runoff into Bishop Creek. Testing was done on the soil and water both at the DPW site and downstream.

All this was reported to the Novi City Council on Monday night.



Jan Jeffres

Through all this, city officials have been commendably open about what must be an embarrassing situation, smack on the heels of the recent election.

We haven't had to file Freedom of Information requests at the city hall, because when public records about the incident — and possible other dumpings of sewage on public land — were requested, the material was simply given to *The Novi News* reporters.

City officials have taken the stand that emptying the contents of sewers onto an open field is not acceptable. The policy is to take such material to a treatment plant. While the city's own investigation continues, it appears that all the right steps are being taken.

But the hero of the piece is the whistleblower, who says he's faced harassment from co-workers — not Novi management — for contacting this newspaper and the DEQ.

Ironically, a newly-released major motion picture, "The Insider," addresses this very issue — the guy with the guts to speak up. Sometimes, you just have to do the right thing.

Bye-bye to Bates Hamburgers



Jan Jeffres

When my sister and I were in our pre- and early teens, we developed a passion for old architecture or anything else that met what we categorized as the criteria for being "funky." Then-inexpensive Bakelite jewelry, Grandma's old hats, big red barns, hamburger stands from the 1950s, Art Deco movie theaters, 1960s diners — all were funky.

So was downtown Novi as it existed at that faraway time, a collection of wood frame buildings, the grandiose corner of Novi Road and Grand River and above all, Bates Hamburgers.

To us, downtown Novi was as funky as Nassau. But of course, not any more, and for the most part, it's all for the better.

But when I drove past the Bates corner on my way to Twelve Oaks Mall recently, I got a sick feeling in my stomach, as if I'd eaten too many greasy onion rings. Bates, of course, was gone and so was what had always seemed to me to be part of the character of Novi, what distinguished it from other cities.

Bates was a surviving 1950s hamburger shack, where once upon a time people on their way to the Walled Lake Casino could grab bit of nouvelle cuisine, American-style. An authentic teen hang-out kind of place, from the days when teens didn't pierce their body parts.

Of course, many city planners and developers apparently don't care for vintage anything. More preferable is nostalgia in the form of brand-new architecture or anything else that met what we categorized as the criteria for being "funky." Then-inexpensive Bakelite jewelry, Grandma's old hats, big red barns, hamburger stands from the 1950s, Art Deco movie theaters, 1960s diners — all were funky.

But I don't see why architects and developers couldn't have been imaginative enough, if Bates must close as restaurant, to incorporate the building into whatever is going into that corner. I can guarantee that whatever does rise, it will have that rustic faux retro style so admired today. Only a handful of people, I guess, prefer the real thing.

But can you imagine anyone in the future feeling the slightest tinge of regret as a 1990s Chili's Grill is demolished?

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Children top list of public priorities



Phil Power

The findings of a decade of medical and scientific research on how babies develop are perfectly clear and undisputed:

• A child's intelligence arises from the set of sensory experiences during the first 10 years of life, with the most crucial period being from birth to age three.

• If the very early years are squandered, the ability to learn is forever compromised.

• What parents of newborns should do is hardly rocket science: Talking, singing and reading to them, tickling them while changing their diapers, helping them draw with chalk, holding and snuggling them. What's new is the intuition and experience that guided parents in the past are today being validated by hard science.

Despite overwhelming evidence, today's reality in Michigan remains stubbornly deficient in focusing on the needs of children, parents and child care providers during the key, early years.

• A study by the Lansing-based Public Sector Consultants found that children in Michigan who are in kindergarten after age five receive three times the public and private support that pre-kindergartners get: \$7,200 per year versus \$2,200 per year.

• The same study found that 96 percent of Michigan workers have no employer-

sponsored early childhood benefits, whether paid family leave or subsidized child care.

• Over the weekend, the Detroit News reported that the people who care for children in Michigan often make less than a hamburger flipper at the local fast food.

Median per hour wages for child care workers are \$7.03, compared to a bus driver's \$11.55 or a kindergarten teacher's \$19.85.

What we have here is a classic disconnect between what we know — we should focus our resources on our children from birth to the time they enter kindergarten — and what we actually do. I can forgive people or societies for not doing the right thing when they don't know any better. But it's hard to forgive when people persist knowingly in dumb behavior.

There are signs wise people in Michigan are beginning to take this situation seriously.

In the Michigan legislature, of all places, a bipartisan Children's Caucus is beginning to look hard at what the state can do to help the development of very young children. Caucus leaders include Reps. Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham, Hubert Price, D-Pontiac, Lynne Martinez, D-Lansing, and Edward LaForce, D-Kalamazoo.

The first meeting last month attracted around 25 Representatives and Senators. Rather than jumping to develop specific legislative proposals, the caucus is intended to provide lawmakers with information about early childhood development they can use later in weighing policy responses.

Roots for the caucus lie in the Ready-To-Learn Leadership Summit, which took place in June and gathered some 50 lead-

ers from all sectors of the state. The group listened to a report by Joan Lessen-Firestone, an early childhood expert and consultant for Oakland Schools, who presented a summary of what scientists have learned about child development over the past 20 years.

The impact of what Firestone and other experts had to say was head-spinning. For example, one study suggested that the return on investment in early child development could be enormous. If society were willing to spend \$12,000 per child for the years from birth, total social spending (in reduced crime, prisons, and other social ills stemming from incomplete childhood development) could be cut by \$88,000.

The best perspective for me (I attended the Summit and was fascinated) was a quote from Becky Beauchamp, of Traverse City's United Way: "The most important thing that can come out of this is to realize that children are a priority. We reverse youth in this country, but we do not value children. We've proven again and again that if something is a priority, we can find a solution. If we decide a \$6 million football stadium is a priority, we find a way to build it."

I wouldn't be at all surprised if concerns about early childhood development wind up to be a central issue in Michigan public policy over the next decade.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net

Supporters thanked for hard work

To the Editor: Although I have thanked them personally, I would like to publicly thank my many friends and supporters for their hard work and encouragement in a difficult election campaign. Their efforts are appreciated more than can be adequately expressed.

I also would like to thank all those voters who participated in the election process. A vote is a powerful tool for change and those eligible voters who did not participate should realize that they sold their power to those who did.

I have great respect for our democratic society, so I also commend those fellow residents who were willing to get involved as candidates. I think that in the final weeks of the campaign it was shown that people who care enough to step up as candidates can have impact, can make a difference, even if they finish last.

I hope more Novi voters will be encouraged or inspired to participate more fully in the processes of local government.

As someone who had the privilege of serving on the city council for four years and on the planning commission before that, I have one suggestion for readers — get involved! Don't wait until anger or frustration drives you to write letters to the newspaper or to speak out in public meetings. Don't wait for an election to question or comment on local government activities. Keep informed on issues of interest to you and then call, e-mail or write local officials to tell them what you think as they are working on those issues. Tell them when you think they are on the right track and when you think they are not.

Finally, I would like to thank all of those people who worked with me — council members, city staff and fellow citizens — to achieve the goals I set four years ago. Senior

Letters

housing, sidewalks and bike paths, the Fair Property, improved communications and technology at city hall, better staffing of police and fire departments, expanded recreational services including the after-school recreation program and the addition of a staff person for the Novi Theater program, streamlined review processes and reorganization of administrative staff are some of the accomplishments of my term of office.

Most importantly, there was a return to civility, common sense and reason in the work of the council.

I wish the new mayor and the council well as they strive to serve the needs of our community.

Kathleen Mutch

ROAD BOND WAS NEEDED

To the Editor: I honestly cannot believe that the road bond issue did not pass. I'm previously from the Sterling Heights-Troy area and have seen what becomes of development and the roads. Everyone on that side of town shakes their heads in disbelief because "the city" didn't see this coming. I understand the need to update the roads before the area becomes congested.

Sooner or later you have to deal with widening, repaving, and most importantly, the inconvenience that it will cause everyone. Let it be a lesson, let's fix the roads before we all run out of road. I mean road.

Christine McCaffrey

HAPPY WITH ELECTION

To the Editor: What a great victory for the citizens of Novi in the recent election. Two perfect gentlemen of the utmost integrity running for mayor in a clean campaign. Election would have served the citizens of Novi extremely well.

Of those that ran for council, the winners appeared to be those that promised to put the residents first. Time will tell if this was a true promise or just campaign rhetoric, but we, as residents and voters, have an obligation to hold them to their election promises. Every resident should stay informed of the goings on in city hall and speak out loudly when our elected officials do not heed the will of the people.

Richard Bond

THANKS FOR COVERAGE

To the Editor: First I'd like to thank *The Novi News* for its coverage of the candidates and issues for last Tuesday's election. I felt much better informed being able to read the information *The Novi News* provided.

Second, I'd like to know what happened to the local cable access coverage. I took forever to see the election results and even when they appeared as unofficial results with all precincts reporting, the numbers kept changing. I wasn't confident that I knew who had won until Wednesday. When they finally started to switch to the automatic display, someone had left a microphone on so you could hear two guys talk about closing up and

turning off the lights. I hope that the election results for the 2000 election will be better presented.

Charles Cook

SUPPORT APPRECIATED

To the Editor: I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens of Novi who supported me in my effort to lead the city, especially those who worked the polls on election day in the cold and rain. It is important that we all come together now to serve the city we live in and love, in whatever way we can. We have so much for which to be grateful, even as we face the challenges "on the plate." Once again, thanks to all.

Michael Meyer

GRATEFUL TO ALL

To the Editor: One voter's view. Once again we have had another election. Thank God that we have that choice.

To the people who did not make it back into office, I thank you for all your past work and effort.

To those who tried for the first time and did not make it, I thank you, please try again.

To those who were elected, good luck. God speed and Solomon's wisdom, you will need it.

To those involved in the charter amendment, I thank you.

To those involved in the road bond issue, I thank you.

To the 7,261 registered voters who voted, I thank you.

To the 23,928 other registered voters who chose not to participate, shame on you. I hope that you like the choices that "we" made.

Dick Stopinski

Thank a veteran today

Maybe it's because there aren't any days off from school, or mad-dening 12-hour furniture sales, or parades in the streets. Maybe it's because Nov. 11 is usually cold and murky. Or maybe it's because World War I is now some 88 years in the past.

Maybe it's because of a little bit of all these reasons that Armistice Day, now known as Veterans Day, isn't well-remembered.

Rest assured, we do remember, and we hope other residents do, too.

There was an air of a movie-like conclusion when the Axis powers signed the agreement to end the War To End All Wars at 11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month. Never before in human history had international conflict been magnified to such global proportions. It was thought that ultimate peace would follow the ultimate war.

Unfortunately, 25 years later, humanity was once again caught up in the horrors of hate and bloodshed, which must have come as a shock and grave disappointment to those who had fought so bravely.

Since Nov. 11, 1911, the United States has been involved in World

War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and a string of military actions — all of which have cost human life.

Was it the War To End All Wars? Obviously not. But what World War I and Veterans Day has given us is an annual reminder that freedom isn't free and that the liberties we enjoy haven't come without a price.

There aren't many World War I veterans around any more and those handful who remain are in the late winter of their own lives. But we know the memories of their efforts still burn bright in their hearts and minds.

And now the generation who saved the world from fascism during World War II is now beginning to fade from this earth.

The next time you see the American flag flying, take a moment to think of what those stars and stripes mean. The flag isn't there just because it looks beautiful against a blue sky.

It's there because some very brave people gave us the chance to put it there.

Thank a vet this Veterans Day.

In Focus

By John Heider



The new team

Keep state out of our schools



Melanie Plenda

You only have to protect the rights you want to keep. That phrase is terribly patriotic, I know. Either I have a touch of election fever or it's the fact that five school bills have come across my desk in as many weeks.

Why all the sudden school spirit in the state legislature, you ask? I'm asking the same question. Let's see, this week we have the government telling the district when their kindergarten

are ready to start school. We have the government telling the district that the Department of Education is no longer capable of running standardized tests and that the bean counters in the Department of Finance can do much better. Several weeks ago we had them telling us, "You know, the protocol you've developed over years of study for suspending students, not good enough." Instead legislators don't believe students should have due process.

Hmm... seems as though the government thinks we need some babysitting. Isn't that funny. Well, I guess they would know, since they are in or near our schools everyday. I guess they would know too, because they attend biweekly school board meetings.

Oh, wait a minute... no that's not the state government... that's us.

We are in the schools everyday and go to the meetings and keep our fingers on the pulses of what is happening in our district. Yet they are under the impression they know what is good for our district.

Now I am willing to concede that the Northville school district very often is the exception to the rule. In many of these bills, should they become laws, we still have to abide by them. However, it is unnecessary meddling by the government in affairs that they

have no first-hand knowledge. And who is responsible for this? Very simply, we are responsible. We are letting legislators of other districts, districts that may need overzealous legislation, dictate to us what's good for the Northville goose.

Jerry Rupley had an idea at the last school board meeting that was downright revolutionary, shocking even.

Rupley suggested that we...gasp...write our legislators. Horrifying, I know, because I am sure many of us don't.

Think of it — in the time it takes to scribe an e-mail message telling me I'm a horrible speller, you could be saving a right.

Additionally, think of this: we are debating issues like MEAP and weighted grades. Though at times it gets unpleasant, at least we can debate issues that affect our district and effect necessary changes.

The trend seems to show that fewer and fewer of these issues that affect our schools will be open for debate. For example, a few weeks ago, Governor John Engler signed an executive order taking the MEAP out of the Department of Education.

Now, he is well within his right under the state's constitution to do this but that doesn't make it a good decision. Many school administrators didn't even know that this was a law and the Senators that represent us were powerless to do anything about it.

We have some very good senators and representatives covering our turf. Reps that we have hired to do a job. Let's not make that job harder by forcing them to speculate what we want.

Let's tell them that Northville and Novi want to keep their right to provide the education they deem fit for their children.

Melanie Plenda is a staff writer for the Northville Record and Novi News. She may be reached via e-mail at mplenda@bt.homecom.net

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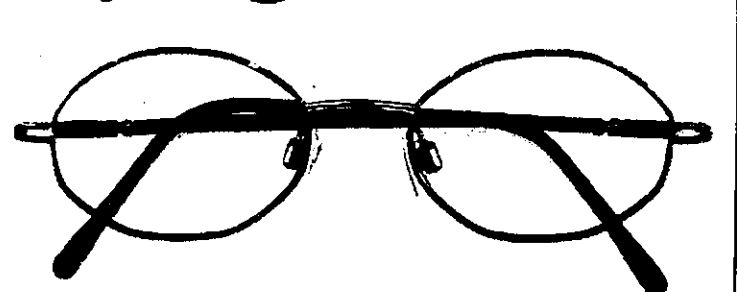
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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Comfort Zone senior staff member Mark Jones watches as Dylan Ritter shoots pool at the Ten Mile road drop-in center.

Comfort Zone holds open house

The Comfort Zone Drop-In Center is hosting an Open House Nov. 11 from 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The center is located in suite 301 at 39575 W. Ten Mile Road in the Novi Health Center Plaza off Ten Mile Road east of Haggerty Road. The Comfort Zone is a place where mentally ill members can go to enhance their social skills

and relax in an atmosphere among peers.

For more information call (248) 615-6200, ext. 171. The center is open regularly on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 4 p.m.; on Thursday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Comfort Zone offers a safe place for those working to rebuild their lives

Continued from 1

work West part of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. The center serves residents all over the county from Farmington to Highland to Clarkston in the north.

On any given day the center sees about 15 people. They are from all walks of life, Hoffman explained and are all battling a form of mental illness.

Some are from group homes or assisted living situations. Some live on their own. Some live with families.

"If you saw (a typical member) walking down the street or in a shop they look like everybody else. The only difference is they might have a sad look on their face or they might have been crying," said

Hoffman.

Hoffman herself has fought manic depression for nearly two decades and is now back on track thanks to medication, therapy and places like the drop-in center.

"Anyone with emotional illness, sadness in their life, stress. Anyone who has or thinks they have an emotional illness" is welcomed to be a guest at the center.

"There's a feeling of having people who understand you. A lot of times the people in your family or your circle don't understand your mood swings," Hoffman explained.

Pam Alexander agrees. She's been coming to the center for solace from her since it opened and says it has changed her life.

"It's helped me build my self-

esteem," Alexander explained. She now has a job at Walgreen's and is also going to school. She was diagnosed with Schizo-affective disorder in 1993.

"The people are great," she added. "Everyone's easy to talk to. Whenever I have a problem there's always someone there staff-wise that I can talk to," she explained.

While the center is not counseling nor therapy, it is a place to go to talk.

"I'm a listener," said Hoffman.

"People confide in me and my staff. But if we hear something that seems like they're in a dangerous situation we get them help. We get a hold of their family or a case manager."

The consumers think of the cen-

ter as their home, their place, said Hoffman. The members help keep the place clean, they help move furniture and most importantly, they help each other. Some members may start tutoring each other in such skills as computers.

Alexander said giving back to other consumers is part of the healing process.

"I try to help support (others at the center) with their illness and tell them what I went through," she said.

Alexander said if she didn't have the center to drop into from time to time she "would probably just stay at home and close myself off from the rest of the world."

Director rises above illness to help others

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL

Staff Writer

It was when the color came back into her life that Brenda Hoffman knew she was going to be okay.

Diagnosed a manic depressive, Hoffman had closed herself off from the world. Life existed only in black and white and shades of gray. But one day, as she was driving down a road, the sky turned blue. The grass became green.

"I saw color. Life was coming back to me," she said.

No one knows better than Hoffman what the guests of the Comfort Zone Drop-In Center need.

The Northville resident and director of the center has battled

manic depression since the early 1980s when a series of events beginning with bankruptcy sent her on a downward spiral. After many attempts, Hoffman finally gained control over her illness with therapy, medication and learning skills and coping methods from other drop-in centers in the area.

She also became involved in those centers serving on boards and committees around the county. Which is how she landed at the Comfort Zone. Hoffman was hired because she is manic depressive. The theory is the center needs a director who can immediately identify with the clientele.

"They hired a consumer because a consumer knows what other consumers go through," she explained. Not only does her job help others. It helps her, too.

"The main thing that helped me to gain my self-esteem back is to show I could help others," Hoffman said.

Hoffman spends her days doling out hugs, lending a sympathetic ear and going for walks with her consumers. She tells others of her fight to stay healthy.

"I consider myself a winner, or victorious over this," she explained.

"I've run the race. I am a survivor. There's a lot of people here who are survivors and when I hear of people who are survivors it just thrills me."

Her husband of 25 years and her family have stuck with her through it all. And she can't wait to spend the next 25 seeing it all in color.

"I'm taking charge of my illness. I have to. No one else is going to take charge for me," she said.

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Dynamic Duo

After 25 years of adventure, Chris and Ellie Hammond have come back to Northville...but not necessarily to relax

By MELANIE PLEND
Staff Writer

Crispin and Eleanor Hammond have seen it all. They have been to the four corners of America, knowing at least one person in every state of the Union.

For three quarters of a century they have had countless adventures and have seen the many wonders of the American countryside — all of it done, seen and experienced side by side.

Now "Chris" Hammond, 90, and "Ellie" Hammond, 86, have decided to end their nomadic retirement and spend the remainder of their lives in Novi, close to family and their long time haunt, Northville.

"It's like coming home, but it's so different," Eleanor Hammond said.

Their beloved Northville has changed from the tiny farming community it once was to a thriving and bustling metropolis.

The Hammonds described Northville as being a very rural community filled with farms and apple orchards. One of their favorite spots was the pond near their home on Beck Road where their six children would ice skate in the winter.

Since then, however, farms have been replaced by buildings, and most of their dirt roads have been paved.

"The one thing that impressed me was all the traffic and the expressways," Chris Hammond described a time when he would

leave his home, which was "one of the first houses built in one of the first subdivisions," and drive to work in Dearborn using Hines Park Drive.

"It was a lovely drive," he said. "There were never any other cars."

Eleanor Hammond, on the other hand, remembered the political climate of the 1960s in Northville when she became the Northville Township clerk.

"I was the only woman on the board at the time and I remember feeling very naive," she said. "I got the feeling women's opinions were not that important, but I formed a lot of (opinions) anyway."

She said over time she began to notice the change moving through society. Eleanor Hammond said very slowly but surely, the harder she worked, the more she made them listen to and eventually respect her.

Though she saw the beginnings of the women's movement and experienced some of its impact first hand, she doesn't believe things have come all that far from her time.

"I don't think it has changed much," Eleanor Hammond said. "I think women still get paid less for doing more, as I



Photos by BOB AHRENS

Crispin Hammond, along with his wife, Eleanor, hold aloft a book given to them at Crispin Hammond's birthday party entitled "Living to 100." The two have decided to make Northville and Novi their home for the remainder of their lives.

did, but the more women take political jobs the more things will change."

The Hammonds decided to retire in 1972. With a pension in their pockets and a desire to never be bored, they embarked on a journey that would last more than 25 years.

They contracted builders to build them a house in Cheboygan. One day they decided the builders were taking too long, so they built it themselves.

"We'd work on it a little bit here and a little bit there, and when we got bored we'd just go on vacation," Eleanor Hammond said.

These "vacations" were often six-week long expeditions by trailer across the country. Chris Hammond said he and his wife have camped from the coasts of New Hampshire to the shores of California.

"We wanted to get it out of our systems," he said.

In the last two years, it's been more and more difficult for the Hammonds to travel as much as they would like.

They have traded their trailer for rail passes and their home in Cheboygan for a smaller place in a new retirement village in Novi.

"As you get older it's more difficult to take care of a house, so we have to live in something smaller," Eleanor Hammond said.

The Hammonds have spent a lifetime together. They created a family and a life and said they still enjoy the little joys of sharing a lunch together on their back porch.

But the Hammonds are not suddenly becoming inactive.

Chris Hammond is an avid amateur meteorologist and spends his days tracking and recording the weather with his new computerized weather station, while Eleanor Hammond is already planning the long list of activities she and her husband are going to try. They include trips to the theater and joining volunteer organizations.

Of the abundance of activity, Eleanor Hammond said simply, "We just hate to be bored."

Whatever the activity however, they made it clear they would do it as they have for the better part of their lives — together.

Melanie Plenda may be reached via e-mail at mplenda@ht.homecomm.net



Photo by CHRIS C. DAVIS

Northville Boy Scout Ben Maxim of Troop 755 sits on the bridge he built for his Eagle project. It spans a seasonal creekbed along a walking trail in Maybury State Park.

Northville Boy Scout bridges path to Eagle

By CHRIS C. DAVIS
Copy Editor

The leaves in Maybury State Park have completely hidden the trail leading from the horse stables, but Ben Maxim doesn't care. He's already walked the path so much he could do it with his eyes closed.

Maxim, a sophomore at Northville High School, spent several weeks in May and June building a foot bridge in Maybury to cross over seasonal streambeds in the woods. It came into use only moments after being completed, as a group of runners trotted across it as Maxim and other members of Troop 755 packed up their belongings.

"We had decent weather to build it," Maxim said. "It was a little breezy when we started, but that was about it."

The service project is the last major hurdle needed to clear before a

Boy Scout advances to the rank of Eagle, the highest rank in Scouting. Before setting to work on it, however, Maxim needed to obtain a wetland permit from the state Department of Natural Resources and design a bridge that would comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The bridge is about 15 feet long and 4 feet wide, constructed from pressure-treated lumber. Because of its remote location within Maybury, all the supplies needed to be brought in with wagons. In total, some 120 hours of work were logged on the project.

Though the bridge is the culmination of Maxim's work in the troop, it's hardly his only endeavor. He is also a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow — a service fraternity within the Scouts — has participated in the Mile Swim, and has had three years of perfect attendance at troop meetings.

Aside from Scouting, Maxim is a member of the Northville High mens' soccer, swimming and track teams, is in the school's German Club, and is involved with his church's youth group program.

And aside from all that?

"I just sleep and watch TV," he laughed. Maxim credited his success in Scouting to his parents, Bruce and Norma Maxim.

"They really pushed me to continue on in the program," he said.

Maxim moved to Northville at age three. Prior to that, he lived in Ann Arbor, just around the corner from Michigan Stadium.

"I was really bummed about that MSU game," he joked.

Maxim's father, Bruce, is Scoutmaster in Troop 755. Ben Maxim has a sister, 10-year-old Katherine. Ben Maxim is the Troop 755's 87th Eagle Scout.

Diversions

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NEWS
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THURSDAY
November 11,
1999

Hunters get fired up for deer season

State report finds southeast Michigan good for deer hunters

With Nov. 15 not far away, outdoor enthusiasts are gearing up for another big firearms deer season. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has taken stock of the deer herds across the state, including what's to be found in the southeastern Lower Peninsula. Here's the latest from the DNR.

SOUTHEASTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT: Genesee, Lapeer, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne counties

Overall, hunters should have a good deer season this year. Deer numbers are starting to stabilize in most areas of the Management Unit. This is still above the desired levels, and there will be continued efforts to reduce deer numbers in some areas.

In the northern portion of the Management Unit, especially north St. Clair, Lapeer, and Genesee counties, the populations are still higher than desired. The DNR has issued many private land permits for this area to reduce crop damage and car/deer crashes.

The Lapeer and Port Huron State Game Areas are large public hunting areas, but they carry lower deer numbers than the surrounding private agriculture lands. Regarding Sunday hunting in Lapeer County, hunters should know that the law was changed to allow hunting on Sunday on private lands with the permission of the landowner.

In the townships of western Oakland and northern Oakland and Macomb counties, deer numbers are up in areas of good cover. Deer move to these areas of good cover when the surrounding area gets developed, and lots of development has occurred in the last few years.

This can result in isolated pockets of good deer numbers that can provide hunting opportunities if you can get access to the land. It is difficult to get access to these private lands, and it takes a while for hunters to cultivate a relationship with the landowner to get it.



A buck senses someone nearby while standing in a field. In Michigan, firearms deer season runs Nov. 15 through Nov. 30. For more information, call the Department of Natural Resources at (517) 373-1263.

ship with the landowner to get it. It is also where archery hunting is an important tool for taking deer to help control deer numbers.

The agriculture lands in southwest Wayne and Monroe counties have fair deer numbers with the area almost entirely private lands. However, development also is shrinking the habitat base for deer in these areas.

Hunters are reminded that many of the more urban southeastern communities have various forms of firearm closures. Hunters should contact their local units of governments for questions dealing with these closures. Hunters should be especially careful in hunting these more urban areas and be thinking safety at all times.

Respecting the property rights of others is the best way to ensure future hunting privileges for you and others. Before hunting on private lands, obtain the landowner's permission. Hunting is still the

most efficient method for controlling deer numbers and is an essential method for managing the Management Unit's population.

Hunters need to scout potential hunting areas early as it is often difficult, if not impossible, to gain access to private lands once the season starts.

There are some private lands open to hunting under the Hunting Access Program. Hunters are encouraged to check the HAP Guide for these locations.

SOUTH CENTRAL MANAGEMENT UNIT: Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Montcalm, Shiawassee, and Washtenaw counties

Deer hunting in 1999 should be similar to our record year in 1998. The DNR is expecting an antlerless harvest similar to our all-time record harvest in 1998. The buck harvest expectations are similar to

the excellent year we had in 1998. The counties with the highest deer populations are Montcalm, Ionia, Gratiot, Jackson, and Hillsdale. The mid-north/south corridor of Livingston and Shiawassee counties should also be excellent.

The DNR has set unlimited quotas for private land antlerless deer licenses in hopes of lowering the deer populations in problem areas. Private land access is the key to any success the DNR has on lowering the deer population, and hunters need to start early scouting and acquiring access to these lands.

Hunting conditions should be excellent. The agricultural crops are being harvested on schedule, and in some areas the corn harvest is ahead of schedule.

The archery season should be very good also, due to the early corn harvest in some areas. The natural foods, especially the fruits, are plentiful, but the corn crop is spotty.

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Academy Award winner Al Pacino portrays '60 Minutes' producer in 'The Insider'

Story based on "The Man Who Knew Too Much"

Jeffrey Wigand (Russell Crowe) was a central witness in the lawsuits filed by Mississippi and 49 other states against the tobacco industry which were eventually settled for \$246 billion.

Wigand, former head of research and development and a corporate officer at Brown & Williamson, was a top scientist, the ultimate insider. No one like him had ever gone public before.

Meanwhile, Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino), investigative reporter and "60 Minutes" producer, mostly for Mike Wallace (Christopher Plummer) segments, taped the famous Wallace interview with its devastating testimony, and arranged a legal defense team for Wigand.

However, before the most newsworthy "60 Minutes" segment in years could air, Bergman would lose to a CBS corporate decision to kill it and would experience the fracturing of loyalties and bitter divisions within "60 Minutes."

Wigand would find himself sued, targeted in a national smear campaign, divorced and facing possible incarceration.

Wigand, having wagered so much and now unable to deliver his testimony to the American people, and Bergman trying to defeat the smear campaign and fighting to force CBS to air the interview, are two ordinary men in extraordinary circumstances.

They find themselves in a fight from which no one will emerge as he entered and nothing will be the same again.

Touchstone Pictures presents a Mann/Roth Production. A Forward Pass Picture. "The Insider." Directed by Michael Mann, written by Eric Roth and Michael Mann, based on the article, "The Man Who Knew Too Much," by Marie Brenner.

The film is produced by Michael Mann and Peter Jan Brugge, distributed by Buena Vista Pictures Distribution. It runs two hours and 38 minutes and is rated "R."



"60 Minutes" executive producer Don Hewitt (Philip Baker Hall, left) discusses one of the program's most explosive stories ever with producer Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino) and Mike Wallace (Christopher Plummer, right) in "The Insider."

Production pays attention to detail

Principal photography on "The Insider" commenced in Louisville, Ky., where the historic Seelbach Hotel served as a key shooting location.

A local bank building stood in for the site of Brown & Williamson's home office.

The company also filmed in the suburban neighborhoods of Hurstbourne and Seneca Park where Wigand lived, and at DuPont Manual High School, where he worked after leaving Brown & Williamson.

Looking at the movie set in the temporary courtroom in Pasco, where the deposition actually took place, Mississippi Attorney General Michael Moore was surprised by the attention to detail, both in the set and the depiction of courtroom activity.

"There were about 50 or 60 tobacco lawyers piled up over there," he recalled, pointing to the far side of the room. "Some of them were actually smoking cigarettes, blowing smoke rings. They were the most arrogant bunch I've ever seen. But when we finally got the word that Jeffrey would give his deposition, I walked in and gave the signal. And all these guys went nuts."

Attorney General Moore appreciated director Mann's scope of knowledge on the issue and history of the case.

When asked to play himself in the movie, Moore laughed. "I guess it does add a dose of reality. It was the most important thing I'll ever do as a lawyer, so I guess I saw it as a chance to have some fun and be a part of history again."

Richard Scruggs also remembers reading for the director to play himself in the movie. "I auditioned with Michael Mann and Al Pacino, reading lines with them one day in Washington. After we did it, Michael Mann put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Dick, that was really a good job, but I think we're going to get a professional actor to play you.'"

Scruggs volunteered to be an extra in the courtroom, becoming, in his words, "One of the guys that follows Dick Scruggs around."

In addition, key scenes around Wigand's momentous decision to testify were recreated where they actually happened, at Scruggs' home on the Gulf.

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GREAT EXPECTATIONS

This friendly, attractive SWF, 37, 5'4", who enjoys dancing, spending time with friends and more, is seeking a fun-loving SWM, over 29, to go out and have a good time with. Ad#2222

ENERGETIC

This SW mom, 34, 5'9", full-figured, with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys fishing, camping and hunting, is seeking a secure, friendly SWM, 25-45, to go out and have a good time with. Ad#1444

DESERVING

Friendly, attractive SWF, 46, 5'8", slender, with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys farm life, horses, animals, photography, the arts, and movies, seeks a caring, fun SWM, 38-52, who enjoys country living and similar interests. Ad#2213

LOOKING FOR LOVE

This DWCF, 34, 5'8", who enjoys bible study and riding Harleys, is waiting for you. If you are an outgoing, warm-hearted, SWCM, under 45, then give her a call. She'd love to hear from you. Ad#9445

SET UP A TIME & DAY

This outgoing SWF, 19, 5'7", who enjoys sports, spending time with family and going to movies, is in search of a SWM, 18-22, to spend quality time with. Ad#1111

UNTIL NOW

Retired SWF, 36, 5'6", enjoys horseback riding, nature and the movies. She's looking for a sincere, honest SWM. Ad#5560

OUT OF THE SOUTH

Here's a DMC mom of one, 37, 5'4", who would be a perfect match for a SWM, 37-45, who enjoys the outdoors, bowling, family times and more. Want to prove me right? Ad#6456

SONG BIRD

Outgoing, Catholic SWF, 48, is looking for a SWM, 40-52, to share music, cooking, the outdoors and the arts. Ad#9500

PLEASANT

You can share your world with this versatile and outgoing DWCF, 57, as long as you're a SWCM, who shares her passions for travel, animals, socializing with friends and more. Ad#1942

LOVES ATTENTION

Friendly, honest DWCF, 60, 5'3", 129lbs., with blonde hair, and green eyes, who enjoys the outdoors, travel, the theater, and spending time with family, is looking for an honest SWCM, 55-67, who shares similar interests. Ad#2417

IN THE HANDS OF GOD

She's a down-to-earth SWCF, 47, blue-eyed blonde, ISO a loyal, truthful SWCM, N/S, to share a meaningful friendship. Her hobbies are bowling, motorcycles and outdoor activities. Ad#1234

IS IT FATE?

She's a fun, intelligent SWF, 19, 5'2", who enjoys the little things in life. She is looking forward to meeting a caring, honest SWM, 19-23, to go out and have a good time with. Ad#7180

HOOKED ON LOVE

This shy, attractive DWCF, 48, 5'4", with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys dancing, playing cards and bowling, is looking for a caring DWCM, 45-55, who shares similar interests. Ad#6982

MAKE THE MOVE

Outgoing, never-married SWF, 33, 5'6", with dark hair/eyes, who enjoys sports, long walks and picnics. She's looking for a SWCM, 32-42, with similar interests. Ad#1308

THE PRIME OF LIFE

Charming Catholic WWWF, 68, a brunette, is seeking a youthful, sweet SWCM, 65+, with whom to share common interests such as Bingo, dining out, dancing, sports, bowling and long walks. Ad#5720

LIVE IT UP

This outgoing SW mom, 38, 5'4", full-figured, who enjoys camping, long walks and spending time with family, is looking for a family-oriented SWM, 35-45, to spend quality time with. Ad#9028

YOUR SERVE

Ambitious, athletic Catholic SWF, 29, 5'3", a blue-eyed blonde, who enjoys tennis and working out, is seeking a confident, humorous Catholic SWPM, 28-36, for friendship leading to more. Ad#2570

BEST THERE IS

Friendly DWPF, 48, 5'8", who enjoys a variety of interests, is looking for an intelligent, attractive SWM, 44-60, who enjoys life, to spend time with. Ad#2289

MELODY OF LOVE

This outgoing DWCF, 51, 5'7", is a member of the choir who's ISO a romantic, considerate SWCM, 50-61, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. Ad#6127

Will get back to you: Friendly, petite SW mom, 34, who likes country music, sports, and spending time with her children, is looking for an outgoing SWM, for a long-term relationship. Ad#8567

Want to spend time...: With this cute Catholic DW mom, 41, 5'4"? She seeks an attractive Catholic SWM, 50-55, 6'+, who loves kids, country living, football games, golfing and vacationing at the ocean. Ad#8545

FAMILY VALUES AND LOVE

This well-educated DWP mom of two, 49, 5'7", is hoping that the sensitive, kind SM, 35-55, that she hopes to meet will come forward soon. She enjoys sports, quiet evenings of conversation, movies, music, cooking, the outdoors and more. Ad#4949

HEAVEN SENT

Pleasant, Catholic DWCF, 51, 5'9", is seeking a companionable Catholic SWM who shares her enjoyment of country living, cooking, gardening, reading and the arts. Ad#7837

NOTEWORTHY

Family-oriented DW mom, 38, 5'8", is hoping to share a meaningful friendship with a man of character, heart and substance, a SWM, 35-42, with patience and understanding. Ad#4073

DESTINY

Outgoing SW mom, 43, 5'3", with brown hair and green eyes, who enjoys spending time with her children, walks on the beach and more, is interested in meeting a caring SWM, 37-50, who likes children. Ad#4383

SWEET THINGS

Friendly SWF, 45, seeks a SWM, for friendship first, maybe more. She enjoys bowling, picnics, boating, long walks and the outdoors. Ad#6999

AMBITIOUS

Fun-loving SWCF, 23, 5'8", with long brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys sports, music and spending time with friends, is seeking a sincere, outgoing SWCM, 22-35. Ad#5036

TOGETHER AT LAST

Get to know this DWCF, 50, with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys the sun, water, sports and traveling. She's ISO a SDWM, over 50. Ad#6665

OCEAN BREEZES

Summer is coming and I'd like to get out and have some fun. Shy at first, I'm DW mom, 42, 5'8", with various hobbies and interests, seeking a SWM, 40-48, to spend time with. Ad#9847

CHANGE OF PACE

Friendly, outgoing SWF, 59, 5'11", whose interests include good conversation, dining out and more, is seeking companionship with a sincere SWM, 58-65, who enjoys life. Ad#5138

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GIVE ME A CALL

SWF, 35, is looking for an interesting SWM, 29-39, N/S, to share animals, travel and more. Ad#3333

FAMILY FIRST

Attractive, family-oriented SWF, 50, 5'2", who enjoys dancing, spending time with family and more, is looking for a SWM, 48-56. Ad#9122

A KEEPER

Kind-hearted SWF, 45, 5'2", who enjoys movies, traveling and more, is looking for a loving, funny WWWM, 40-65. Ad#1066

LIFE IS GOOD

This friendly, active DWM, 5'9", is a young 54 who likes to exercise. He's seeking an honest SF, under 50, who can keep up. Horse lover a plus. Ad#4848

COUNTRY LIFESTYLE

DWCM, 37, 6'2", 185lbs., who enjoys camping, fishing, collecting antiques, dining out, and quiet times at home, is ISO an attractive, slender SWCF, 32-42, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. Ad#9665

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BRING YOUR SMILE

Sweet DWCF, 59, 5'3", is seeking a SWCM, 55-65, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, family time, traveling and home cooking. Ad#1219

COMPANIONSHIP

Attractive, sincere SWF, 57, 5'7", who enjoys cooking, camping and having fun, is looking for a sweet SWM, 50-62. Ad#1941

Males
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SHORT BUT SWEET

Professional SWM, 43, who enjoys boating, fishing and going for walks, is searching for a friendly, outgoing DWCF, under 46, for a possible relationship. Ad#1313

Let's get acquainted: Outgoing and friendly, this DW dad, 44, 6'1", enjoys exercising, family times, horses, and dining out. He is seeking a SWF, 34-44, in good shape, for dating and maybe more. Ad#1246

DREAMS COME TRUE

Humorous, nurturing DWCPM, 52, 5'11", who enjoys Mexican holidays, outdoor activities, cooking, reading and quiet evenings, is seeking a witty, compassionate SWCF, 40-51, N/S, for friendship leading to more. Ad#4321

NEW TO THE AREA

Friendly, active SWCM, 25, 5'7", medium build, with brown hair/eyes, is seeking a faithful, outgoing SCF, 19-35, for a possible relationship. He enjoys his work, further education, church activities, and more. Ad#4444

A RARE GEM

Outgoing, friendly SWM, 20, 6', who enjoys movies, music, sports and auto racing, is ISO a SWF, 18-22, who shares similar interests and would enjoy a true gentleman. Ad#7179

Knows what he wants: Friendly SWM, 43, 6'2", 225lbs., with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys travel, dancing, fishing, movies and more, is seeking an attractive SWF, 36-45, N/S. Ad#2424

TRUE BLUE

Amiable SWCM, 26, 6', N/S, who enjoys movies, music, cooking and playing cards, is seeking a special SWCF, 20-30, with strong family values. Ad#1216

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Personable, employed DW dad, 43, 6'1", 200lbs., who enjoys conversation, animals, working out, home improvement, and travel, is seeking a fit, shapely SCF, 34-45, for friendship, maybe more. Ad#4410

AFFECTIONATE

Shy SWM, 32, 5'10", who enjoys animals, boating and fishing, is looking for a SWF, 32-41, to share special times with. Ad#4767

DON'T WAIT

Never-married SWM, 38, 5'10", 165lbs., with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys animals, boating, and golf, seeks a SWF, 25-40. Ad#7714

SOUND GOOD?

Employed DWCM, 44, 5'10", 180lbs., with brown hair and green eyes, who loves camping, walking, country music and more, is seeking a SWF, under 45, for friendship first. Ad#4531

Love, life & laughter: Outgoing and friendly, this Catholic DWM, 63, 5'11", 170lbs., with gray hair, who enjoys evenings at home, dining out, and going to plays and shows, is ISO childless, Catholic DWCF, 45-65, with the same interests. Ad#2552

SINCERELY

Professional SWM, 33, 5'10", with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys traveling, fine dining and more, is searching for a kind SWF, 20-34. Ad#1616

INNER BEAUTY...

Is what matters most to this outgoing WWWM, 42, 5'4", 135lbs., with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys boating and fishing. He seeks a SWF, 35-48. All calls will be answered. Ad#6272

IS IT YOU?

This friendly SWM, 33, 5'8", who enjoys sports, music and country living, is looking for a SF, under 39, who shares similar interests. Ad#7055

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Friendly DWPM, 51, 5'10", who enjoys golf and meeting new people, is seeking a SF, over 45, who has a good sense of humor, for a possible long-term relationship. Ad#3308

MUSIC LOVER

Warm, educated, physically fit SWPM, 45, who enjoys ballroom dancing, concerts, reading, and good conversation. He is seeking a smart, affectionate SWPF, 26-38, for a lasting relationship. Ad#4412

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Outgoing, honest DWCM, 55, 6'2", is a member of the choir who enjoys taking walks, dining out, theater, golf and travel. He's seeking friendship, perhaps more, with a similar SWCF. Ad#9255

LEAVE A MESSAGE

An employed, tall, physically fit SWM, 28, who enjoys volunteer work, rollerblading and more, is seeking a nice, caring SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#8989

HOPE YOU TRY ME

SWM, 48, 5'7", whose interests include bowling, biking, taking walks in the park, music and dancing, is hoping to hear from a gentle, understanding SWF, 38 and up, to share friendship and fun. Ad#6431

HAVE A HEART

Employed SWM, 38, 5'11", 150lbs., enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with his children. He is seeking an honest, hardworking SWF who is attractive and physically fit. Ad#5555

PARTNER IN LIFE

Outgoing DWM, 28, 6'2", enjoys going out, karaoke, and outdoor activities, and seeks a fun, spontaneous, responsible SWF, 25-35, for an equal-partner relationship. Ad#2199

NOTEWORTHY

Pleasant, employed, and educated SWCM, 45, 6'5", slim build, who enjoys the outdoors, fishing, camping, movies, concerts, and dining out, is seeking an easygoing SWCF, 38-48, who is height/weight proportionate. Ad#6907

Romantic teddy bear: Affectionate SWCM, 37, 5'10", with brown hair, hazel eyes and dimples, is looking for a full-figured SCF, who loves to laugh. He enjoys a variety of music, movies, the theater and travel. Ad#8884

WORTH A TRY

He's a sincere, honest, outgoing SW dad, 41, 5'10", who enjoys fishing, going for walks, and more. He's seeking a loving SWF, 34-44, for a possible relationship. Ad#8899

A great attitude...: Is what this handsome DWPM, 62, 6'2", with a slim build and outgoing personality has. He enjoys classic cars, wooden speed boats and is seeking an attractive, enthusiastic D/SWF, 36-55. Ad#3541

WORTH A TRY

Fun-loving, active SWM, 30, who enjoys the outdoors and traveling, is seeking a nice, honest SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#2463

PHONE ME NOW

Friendly SNAM, 34, 5'11", who enjoys dancing, sports, camping and nature, is interested in meeting a patient, humorous SF, under 40, N/S, who likes children. Ad#5421

QUIET TIMES

DWCM, 35, 5'10", enjoys outdoor activities, sports, quiet walks and movies, music and he's looking for an attractive SWCF, 35-35. Ad#6226

GOOD ATTITUDE

SWM, 42, who enjoys going to the lake, the outdoors, weightlifting and kickboxing, is looking to meet a kind, outgoing SWF. Ad#6453

MANY OPTIONS

Sincere SWPM, 40, 6', who enjoys Bible study and dining out, the outdoors and more, is looking to meet an honest, fun-loving SWPF. Ad#7272

ROMANCE

Sincere, fun-loving, Catholic SWPM, 44, 6'1", with a wide range of interests, seeks one special slender, fit SW mom, for a romantic, monogamous LTR. Ad#1818

GO PLACES...

And do things with this friendly SWCM, 28, 6'2". He enjoys animals and kids, and is hoping to hear from a similar SWCF, 18-35. Ad#1379

ONE ON ONE

Kind-hearted SWM, 20, 5'10", who enjoys auto racing, the outdoors and movies, is looking for an outgoing, sincere, loving SF, 18-24. Ad#1722

HE'S THE ONE

Outgoing SWCM, 30, 6', who enjoys working out, movies, moonlit walks and more, is looking to meet a SWCF, under 29, without children. Ad#2324

Commitment-minded: Kind-hearted SWM, 39, 6'1", is looking for an outgoing, loving SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#3111

Flex your muscles: Fun-loving, sincere and athletic, this Catholic SWM, 40, 6'1", enjoys family, friends and romantic times, and is seeking a trim, fit SAF, 21-38. Ad#6969

Call if interested: Friendly DWCM, 30, 5'8", 140lbs., with brown hair, blue eyes and a mustache, seeks a Catholic SF, without children, who enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and traveling. Ad#7731

SEARCHING

Catholic DWM, 45, 5'10", seeks a sociable and sincere SWF, 33-51, who enjoys an active lifestyle. Ad#2323

MAGNIFICENT

SWCM, 40, 5'11", who thinks passionately, loves intuitively and lives joyously, is searching for a vital SWCF, 29-46, who loves the arts, for a life enhancing relationship. Ad#7977

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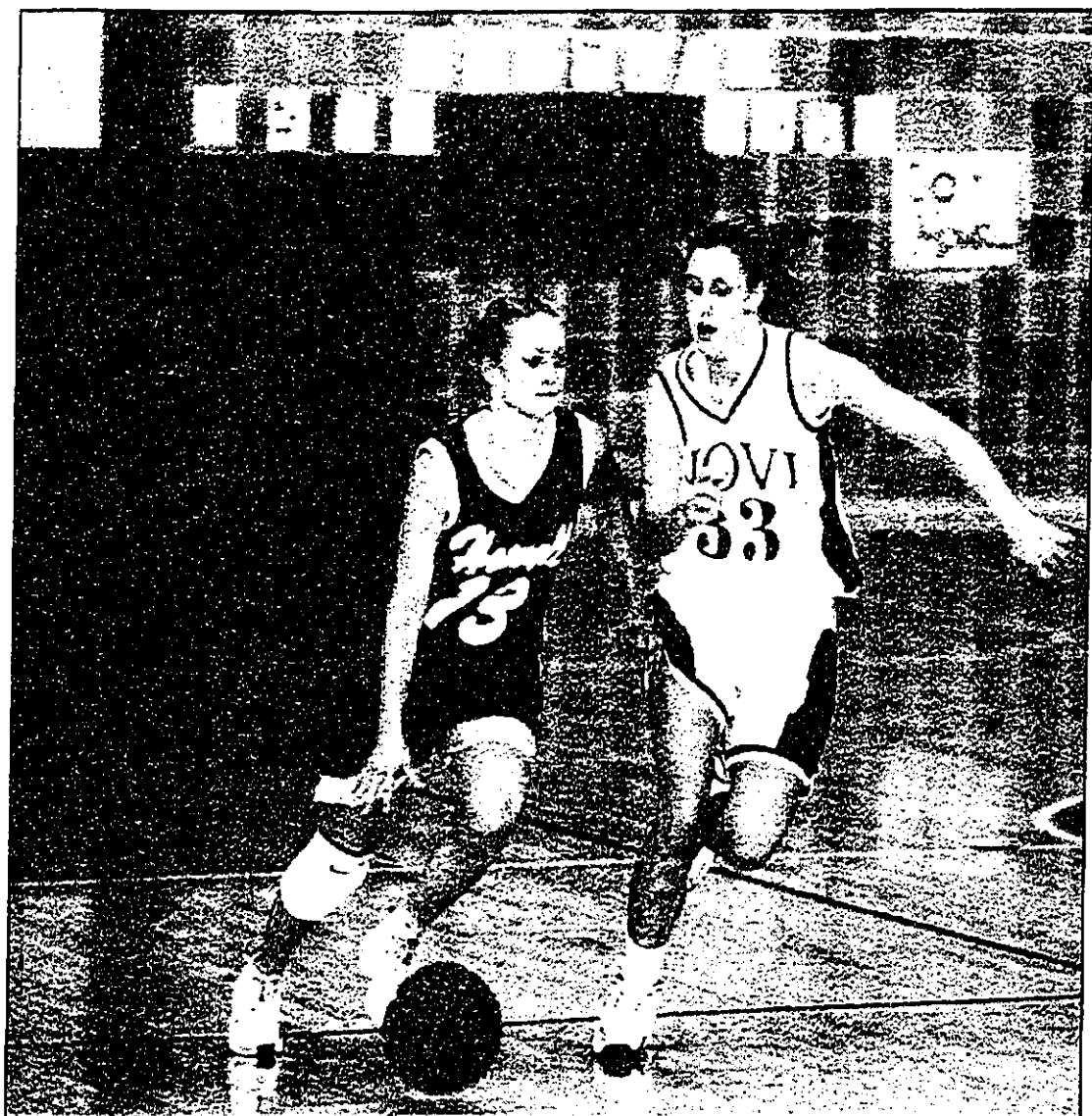


Photo by CHARLEY HARP

Novi's Jessica Gilbert stays with Howell guard Sarah Piepho step by step last Thursday night.

KVC, KVC, KVC!

Novi girls win 1st KVC title in seven years

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

It may have taken a bit longer for the fans to start the familiar chant. But once it started midway through the fourth quarter, it was a welcomed melody for the girls' basketball team. The sounds of "KVC! KVC! KVC!" echoed throughout the gym, signaling that the Wildcats had just wrapped up its first piece of the conference crown in seven years.

Novi topped Howell 57-46, recapturing a crown that has so often eluded the 'Cats that only two such titles have been won by Novi in 23 years of Kensington Valley Conference play.

"I don't know what to say right now," Novi senior Kelly Bendernagel said immediately following the win last Thursday. "It's awesome."

Bendernagel led the charge over the Highlanders with a game-high 19 points. Ten of her points came in the first quarter, where Novi jumped out to a 17-4 lead and took immediate control of the game. Coach Dennis Cichonski said coming in that there were a couple of things his team needed to do to win the game.

"We wanted to control the tempo of the game, not let them control it, and we did," the coach said. "And we rebounded well, not allowing them to get off too many second

Basketball

chances."

Novi jumped out to a 5-0 lead and added to that with a Bendernagel three-pointer and a Kristen McGlinn layup with 4:34 remaining in the first. After Howell hit a short jumper, Jessica Gilbert nailed a 20-footer and Bendernagel added a free throw and a mid-range jumper to give the 'Cats the 17-4 lead with 2:08 left in the first.

Novi extended that lead to 34-17 at the half, their largest lead of the game.

Howell kept themselves within striking distance throughout the second half thanks to the play of Sarah Piepho and Stephanie Benear. Piepho's second-straight three pointer cut the lead to 42-34 with 7:40 left to play, but Novi hit the vast majority of its free throws down the stretch to wrap up its second win of the season over Howell and its 11th-straight in league play.

"We have a tendency to play not to lose rather than to win sometimes, but we did a nice job of realizing that and making some adjustments," the coach said.

"We knew that we'd have to box out and guard Sarah Piepho and Stephanie Benear on offense," Ben-

dernagel said. "We did an okay job, but we could have done better."

Cichonski said he felt his team could win the league title this year, but had his doubts in a league with three tough teams battling it out.

"You always have those expectations at the beginning of the season, especially when you have a fine group of young ladies like these," the coach said. "I felt coming in to the season that we'd have a fine ballclub."

Depending on how Novi did Tuesday night in the season and conference finale against Lakeland (after *The Novi News'* deadline), the team could complete the best regular-season in school history at 19-1 and a perfect 12-0 record in league play.

"I know these girls want to finish undefeated," Cichonski said prior to Tuesday's game. "They had that motto that this was their year coming in and nothing was going to stop them."

Novi's other offensive star for the night was Beth Rice, who scored seven of her 15 points in the final quarter.

She hit three free throws down the stretch and handled most of the team's ball handling duties against Howell's press. Kristen McGlinn added 11 points for Novi.

Wildcats hope for a repeat ends in loss to Stevenson

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Playing in the overachiever role all year long, the Novi soccer team's Cinderella season came to an abrupt close last Friday night at South Lyon Middle School.

Livonia Stevenson capitalized on a pair of Novi mistakes early in the second half, and continued their domination of the Wildcat's offense in getting a 3-0 win in the state quarterfinals.

Stevenson advanced to take on Salem this past Tuesday (after *The Novi News'* deadline) in one of the two semifinal games. No. 1 ranked Brother Rice squared off against Rochester Adams in the other semifinal.

Stevenson's first goal of the game came with 37:12 left in the game, as the Spartans continued to pressure Novi's midfielders and gained control of the ball deep in Novi's end of the field. Without warning, Tom Eller, Stevenson's Mr. Soccer candidate, fired a shot that beat Novi goalie Nick Sloan to give his team a 1-0 lead. Up to that point, the Wildcats had avoided being scored upon, despite several chances by the Spartans.

Eller struck again about 14 minutes later. The senior threw the ball in from the side. The throw was right on goal, and hit the backside of a Novi defender and ricocheted into the goal past Sloan. The goal dimmed the spirits of Novi play-

Soccer

ers and fans all but assured Stevenson of the game.

"We made two mistakes, and Stevenson scored both times," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "That's what happens when you play great teams — they capitalize when you make mistakes. If you want to be a great team you must capitalize on your chances."

"Without a doubt the better team won." Novi came into the game shorthanded. Leading scorer Brandon Davis missed the game due to sickness, leaving the

Wildcats scrambling for offensive help.

Novi had a few good opportunities in the first half, but couldn't penetrate Stevenson's last line of defense and the ball was cleared. Stevenson's goalie also made some fine saves in goal. The game was 0-0 at the half.

"We knew that we needed to keep the game close until the end or even into overtime," O'Leary said. "We knew we had to capitalize on our chances and limit our mistakes."

Despite the two goals, the Novi coach was pleased with the defensive job Frank Raburn did on Eller.

"He did an excellent job on Eller, and Sean Thompson did a great job on their

second-best player, Mike White. He completely shut him down."

Brian Braun added a late goal for Stevenson (18-2-1). Novi's season ended better than expected. The 'Cats were 19-2-1 and finished a close second to Brighton in the Kensington Valley Conference.

NOVI 6, DEARBORN 1

In the last "tune up" game for the Wildcats, the offense was running on all cylinders.

Rzepka scored a season-high three goals and Joe Irimescu assisted on four to lead Novi to the regional semifinal win.

Lack of depth hurts swimmers

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Using a national scoring system to determine the winner of the Kensington Valley Conference swim meet really came back to haunt Novi last week, with Brighton's depth playing a big factor in the Bulldogs' drive for the conference title.

Brighton scored 444 points to win the meet, despite Novi winning nine of the 12 events. The scoring system awards points to 12 placers, and the Bulldogs' superior depth collected many of those points.

"Their depth carried the day for them," Novi coach Larry Teahan said. "We knew it was an uphill battle to beat them, and when we were disqualified in the 200 medley relay we knew we had little chance to beat them."

Teahan was talking about his top team getting disqualified because of an illegal exchange in one of the legs. Novi went on to win the event, but was stripped of its 32 points immediately.

Among the many winners for Novi was Andrea Yocum, who took top honors in both the 200 individual medley and the 100 breaststroke. Her time of 2:29.0 was a meet record and she and teammate Amy Hartland (2nd) met qualifications for the state meet.

Swimming

Yocum also set the conference record in the breast, where she swam a time of 1:16.74 to blow away the competition. Hartland had set the previous record just last year.

Hartland broke her own meet record in the 100 butterfly, bettering her state-cut time in 1:08.43. That time was in the preliminaries. She swam 1:08.49 in the finals for the win.

Freshman Amanda Smith proved herself against the big-named conference swimmers. She avenged early-season defeats to Howell and Brighton opponents by winning both the 50 and 100 freestyles.

Her time of 28.03 in the finals was a bit slower (28.02) than her prelim time, but good enough for a state cut. She won the 100 in a time of 1:01.32, which was also a state cut and just off the meet record.

"She swam very, very impressively against (Heidi) Leppek of Howell and (Rachael) Ward of Brighton, both of whom beat her earlier this season," Teahan said.

Smith also joined Emily Nicol, Blair Tyler and Kristina Utley to win the 200 free relay in a time of 1:55.34. It was the best race of the day, as the

Continued on 3



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi junior Andrea Yocum (above) won the KVC breaststroke title last weekend.

Schmitt, Echols compete at states

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Looking more like a seasoned senior than a first-time freshman, Novi's Nina Schmitt ran the best race of her short career and finished 22nd at the state cross country meet last Saturday at Michigan Speedway.

The top-25 finish at the Class A finals helped Schmitt earn all-state honors, as she joined fellow Kensington Valley Conference freshman Katie Kramer as the only two freshmen to do so. Teammate Kristin Echols, who finished 21st at last year's state finals, had an off-day and finished an uncharacteristic 129th. The race was the last for Echols, as the three-year varsity star wrapped up an all-state, KVC championship career.

Schmitt's not the first freshman to earn all-state honors at Novi, but she is among the best young talent the program has seen in recent memory.

Wildcat coach Norm Norgren said his youngster performed beyond his expectations at her first state meet.

"Every little bit beyond them," Norgren said. "I didn't put any pressure on her. As a freshman, you want them to feel their way around. I watched her at the start, and she was smart. She got out with the lead group and held on."

Norgren said he saw Schmitt head into the third mile of the race around 22nd, and she came out of the last loop of the race in the same position. He said her experience in past "big meets" helped her find her way in this one.

"That's one of the reasons we love Oakland County," Norgren said, referring to the largest single meet in the United States. "There are so many girls at that meet, too, and you have to get out ahead of them or you'll never pass all those girls."

Schmitt finished the race in a career-best time of 19 minutes, seven seconds. Rochester Adams' Katie Boyles won her third-consecutive state championship, leading her team to a runnerup finish behind Rockford. The Rams dominated the team event, with three runners among the top five and six among the top 30. Traverse City Central was third and Ann Arbor Pioneer was fourth. Milford took 12th as a team, edging out Brighton (13th) as the KVC's top representative.

Kramer, who beat out Schmitt to win the KVC individual title, was the top conference finisher at MIS. Her time of 18:45.6 was a career-best mark for her.

Echols raced in her third-straight state finals. Last year she ran a time of 18:43, after running a 20:36 on a rain-soaked course in 1997. She finished 59th that year. Her time of 20:20 was not like Echols, who had a stellar junior season.

"She just had a bad day," Norgren said. "She showed us what she's capable of a few times this year, but she just didn't have it in this race. But

Girl's cross country

she's got nothing to be ashamed of at all. We're going to miss her desperately."

Norgren was still displeased that his team was placed in a tough regional and was not able to show off its stuff at the state meet.

Ann Arbor Pioneer, Livonia Stevenson and Saline

Continued on 3



Photo by JASON SCHMITT

Freshman Nina Schmitt, above, earned all-state honors in her first ever state finals.

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NEWS

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Commemorative
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THURSDAY
November 11,
1999

Ahhh...sweet repeat

Four all-staters lead Novi
to 2nd-straight state titleBy JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

With the smile of a young boy who had just opened up his most-anticipated Christmas present, Novi cross-country coach Bob Smith beamed with joy after the unofficial state finals results had been posted at Michigan Speedway last Saturday.

His boys had defeated the rest of the 27-team field, including state favorite Rockford, to claim their second-straight Class A boys' championship. It wasn't the prettiest of seasons for the Wildcats, but in a matter of 40 minutes on a windy, brisk afternoon in November, it suddenly became one of the best.

"My first emotion was relief," Smith said. "After last season's title, the bar had been raised so high that I wasn't sure we'd be able to win again."

Novi collected just 68 points, which easily outdistanced Rockford (90) and the rest of the field. Saline was third (132), Clarkston fourth (133) and Grand Ledge fifth (160).

Sophomore Tim Moore put together his most impressive race of the season, as did junior Chris Toloff, in leading the team to the title. Moore finished the course in a career-best time of 15 minutes, 27.0 seconds, which was good for third place. Only Rockford's Dathan Ritzenhein (15:05.4) and Walled Lake Central's Todd Mobley (15:25.8) finished better. Moore also defeated defending Kensington Valley Conference champion Tom Greenless of Milford (4th overall for the first time in his young career).

"I knew that if I ran an excellent race, I'd do that well," Moore said. "I knew I should be up there at the top."

Toloff stayed within reach of the lead pack and finished just ahead of Detroit Catholic Central's Matt

Daly for seventh place overall. His time of 15:42.60 was a career best as well.

"I was looking to be in the top seven, maybe even the top five," the two-time state medalist said. "I got out to a slow start and had to play catch up. But I did and I'm happy with my finish."

Perhaps bigger news for Novi, however, were the finishes of Mark Avenius, Eric Walle and Nick Bassitt. As it turned out, had any of these three not finished the race, or pulled up lame, Novi wouldn't have won the title.

Avenius was coming off a three-week stretch where he was suffering from a calf injury and could not race to his full potential. He went on to earn all-state honors with his 17th place finish in 16:09.1, which was perhaps the most miraculous finish of the 284 kids that completed the course.

He was healthy enough to race at regionals, but he was still feeling some pain and kept him out. He was really the wild card for us. I would not have surprised if he was our fifth or sixth man, or if he finished the race or not," said Smith. "When I heard that the driver's 17th I knew we suddenly got back into the driver's seat."

Walle also made his name known, taking 22nd place and also earning all-state accolades. His time of 16:15.5 was just fast enough to keep him within the top 25 and it helped his team gain eight points on Rockford.

Novi's fifth runner, Nick Bassitt, came through with a 55th-place finish overall (16:39.0). Not only was that faster than Rockford's fifth runner, but it solidified Novi's win by gaining another 11 points on the No. 1 ranked team.

"If we add 10 seconds to his time, we may not win the team race," the coach said. "The public address announcer kept addressing the crowd by saying Novi had four in the top 20, but I kept asking 'What about Nick Bassitt?'"

Evan Foster and Mitch Erickson were Novi's sixth and seventh runners. Foster's time of 17:10.1 was the fastest of his career, while Erickson's time of 17:45.9 was near his career-best effort.

Novi made it be known early that they were the team to beat, leading the race as a team from the first mile on. As the race wore on, Rockford's No. 3 runner dropped out of the race because of exhaustion. That widened Novi's lead, although the team wasn't really aware of it.

"We weren't looking at numbers or names, we were just trying to beat their jerseys," Smith said. "We knew our third man had to be in front of their third man, our fourth in front of their fourth and our fifth had to beat out their fifth man. We had to make sure they were focused."

"(Coming in) we thought we'd win," Walle said. "The night before we all sat down and looked at Rockford's times. We had the athletes to beat them. It was a mental step we took. You have to believe."

Novi's four all-state runners were more than any other team. The Wildcats had two all-state runners a year ago (Kevin Avenius-7th and Dan Christofferson-8th) en route to the program's first state title. Athletes must finish among the top 25 to earn such honors.

This year's team totaled 68 points, which beat last year's total of 82. Asked if this team was better than last year's squad, Smith hesitated before answering. "No comment," he joked. "I can only please half of the people by answering that."



Photo by JASON SCHMITT

Sophomore Tim Moore (above) nears the finish line at last Saturday's Class-A state championship meet at Michigan International Speedway. He finished third overall in the race, helping his Novi team bring home its second-consecutive state championship.

He did say that last year's team was deeper, but this year's team had a lot of experience back from the state meet.

Novi's title marked the fifth-straight year a team

from the KVC has won the title, marking the dominance of the conference in cross-country running. Three of the top five and four of the top seven runners at this year's race were from the KVC.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Members of the 1999 Novi cross country team celebrate their 2nd state title on Monday.

Saline, two of which Novi defeated at the state meet (Clarkston and Saline). Lakeland failed to make the state finals for the first time in 17 years.

Is there any doubt that the Kensington Valley Conference is the strongest cross country conference in the state? No. Novi reassured fans of that by giving the conference its fifth-

straight state title and sixth overall in the 1990s. Lakeland won titles in 1991, 1996 and 1997. Brighton edged out the Eagles in 1995 and Novi has won the last two. Brighton won the KVC's only other state crown back in 1978.

It was a good idea to expand the school's trophy case this past season. The school's athletic program has won four state champi-

Jason Schmitt is the sports editor for the Northville Record and Novi News. He can be reached at jschmitt@homecomm.net

Hot Picks

The second season of football picks has begun, and everyone will be trying to do the following: Johnson, Jason Schmitt. This year we've even given the coin a chance, so hopefully everyone has at least a 50 percent chance of finishing out of last place... we hope!

Michigan at Penn St.	Penn St.	Penn St.	Penn St.	Michigan	Penn St.	Michigan	Michigan	Penn State
Texas Tech at Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas Tech	Texas	Texas
Miami (Fla) at Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Miami (Fla)	Miami (Fla)	Virginia Tech
MSU at Northwestern	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	Northwestern	MSU	MSU	Northwestern
Miami at Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Miami	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo
San Diego at Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	San Diego
Detroit at Arizona	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit
Minnesota at Chicago	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Chicago	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota
Green Bay at Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Green Bay	Green Bay	Dallas	Dallas
Denver at Seattle	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver
Last Week	5-5	7-3	6-4	7-3	6-4	6-4	8-2	8-2
Season Record	72-38	71-39	67-43	65-45	68-42	70-40	71-39	50-60

Tankers
looking
forward

Continued from 1

Cats edged Brighton (1:55.40) and set a league record and met their state cut.

Smith, Utley, Yocum and Hartland teamed up to win the 400 free relay to set the state record. Their time of 4:09.83 was a KVC record and won the event easily.

Lindsey Vermillion won the race, met her state cut and set a league record in the 100 backstroke, where she swam to a time of 1:10.27. She edged out her Brighton opponent by just over a half a second.

Laurel Weiss won the diving competition with 344.85 points and will now compete at the regional diving competition next Tuesday.

She beat out Brighton's No. 1 and two of Howell's top divers.

Utley finished second to Howell freshman Jenna Ferry in both the 200 and 500 freestyles, despite meeting her state cut in the 200.

The Wildcats will now prepare for the state meet, which will be held Nov. 18 and 19 at Oakland University. Novi has qualified in every event, and Teshan and his team will now figure out which events his swimmers will be competing in.

Smith will race in both the 50 and 100 free events, and Utley will swim both the 200 and 500 freestyles. Yocum will most likely swim the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke. Hartland will try her luck in the 100 butterfly and one of the other three events she's qualified in. Vermeulen will swim the backstroke.

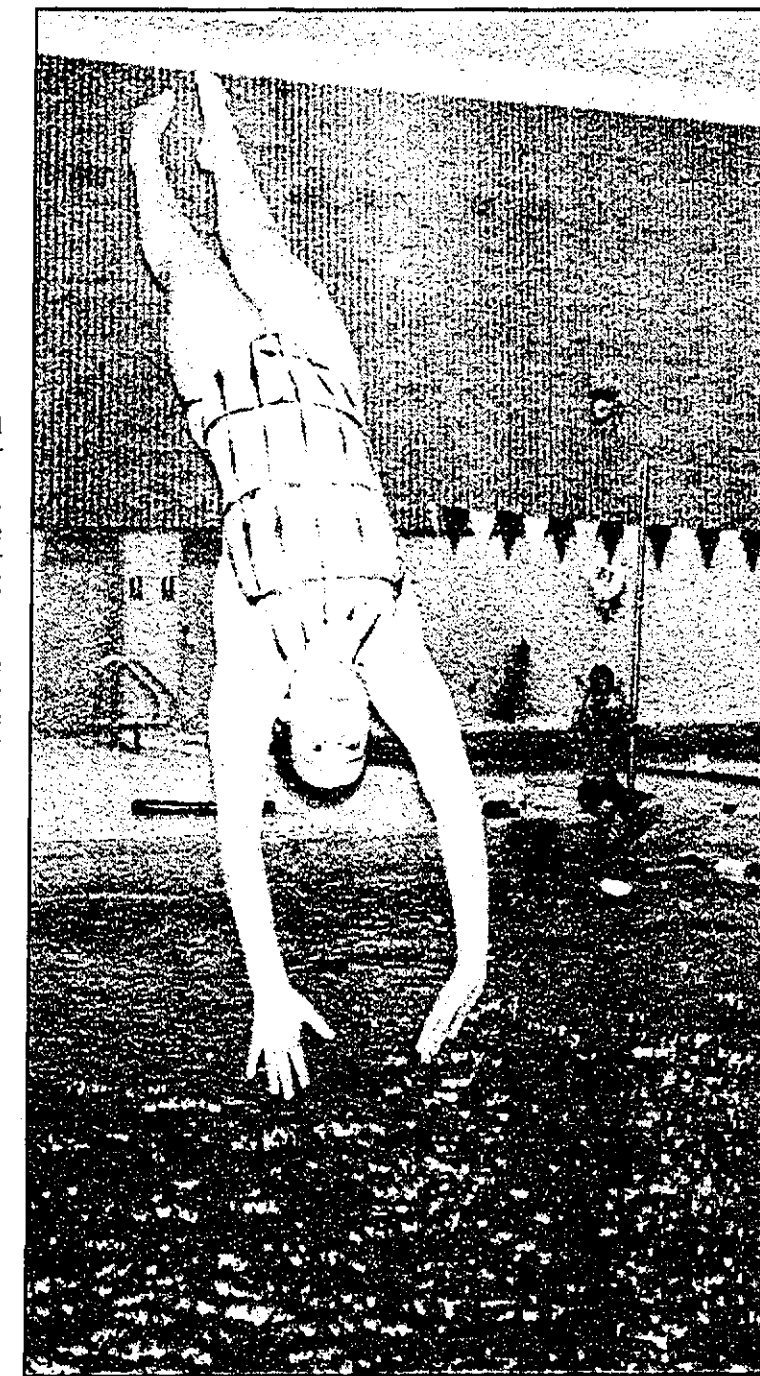


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Diver Laurel Weiss (above) is looking to qualify out of the regional diving meet next Tuesday and onto the state finals.

Schmitt
places 21st

Continued from 1

advanced out of Novi's regional. Pioneer was fourth at the state meet, and Saline (8th) and Stevenson (14th) finished in the top half of the standings. Novi placed second at the Oakland County Meet, ahead of state qualifiers Milford (12th), Rochester (20th) and Berkley (25th), all of whom competed at the state finals.

Norgren is graduating seven seniors from a team that finished fourth in a tough regional and second to Brighton at the league meet. Along with Echols, Cat Waller, Val Stefansson, Amber Leahy, Erin Lehr, Amanda Farrell and Manu Muralidhar will graduate next May.

"It's going to be a rebuilding year," Norgren said. "You just hope our base will be good enough and our newcomers fill in."

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What a day, what a team

Having seen the boys win their second-straight cross country state title, I couldn't help but feel a bit of excitement in the air around me. There were an estimated 8,000 people in all at the raceway. That's more people than you'll see at the girls' basketball finals. And be it Rockford, Novi or even last-place Midland, the support system each team brings with it (i.e. family, friends and supporters) is incredible.

I talked with parents of Novi's top seven. I talked with parents of Novi reserves. I even talked with parents of graduated Novi runners who were there to support the team. The trip over to MIS is 75 miles — not exactly a quick jaunt to see someone else's kid race.

Since starting at the Novi News and the Northville Record in August of 1997, I've made it to six state championship events (wrestling once, swimming once, soccer once and cross country three times.) Call me crazy, call me what you will. But I think it's an exciting sport to watch.

Race day notes: Coming into the race, No. 1 ranked Rockford had hoped to avenge last year's upset to Novi.

But as I made my third-

straight trip to Michigan Speedway last Saturday afternoon, I couldn't help but feel a bit of excitement in the air around me. There were an estimated 8,000 people in all at the raceway. That's more people than you'll see at the girls' basketball finals. And be it Rockford, Novi or even last-place Midland, the support system each team brings with it (i.e. family, friends and supporters) is incredible.

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But as I made my third-

Jason
Schmitt

No there's no tackling, no pump fakes, and no there aren't any game-winning home runs in the sport of cross country. There aren't any last-second Hall Mary's or buzzer beaters. As for fellow teammates, fans and coaches storming the field immediately following the game, well, no there's none of that either.

Health

the NOVI
NEWS

4B

THURSDAY
November 11,
1999

Health Column

Technology can be our friend

Imagine sitting down to relax and watch any of 30 to 50 television stations. Imagine sitting down and signing on to the Internet and surfing the web or playing a video game. Imagine sitting down and playing the slot machines. Now, imagine all of this being accomplished while you are exercising.

Fresh back from Club Industry '99 (the single largest health and fitness show in the U.S. displaying the latest in fitness equipment and accessories), I am happy to report the fitness equipment manufacturers are taking the No. One enemy in our fight against inactivity - technology - and turning it into an opportunity. The latest much improved fitness equipment is not only easier to use and burns more calories while minimizing the risk of impact, it has blended technology with exercise. You can find any of 20 to 30 different types of fitness equipment from more traditional bicycles and treadmills, to the latest and hottest elliptical fitness machines integrated with television, video games, Internet access and yes, slot machines.

We are not only eating 300 calories more than a decade ago, we are moving our bodies substantially less and that is where our enemy, technology, is partly to blame. Heck, who wants to actually, physically, play a game and get - sweaty - when we can sit in the comfort of our homes and play it on our Internet or big screen TV with all the cool graphics and chips and pop nearby. And who really walks briskly anymore, other than when we can't get a close enough parking spot at the mall and it is closing soon. Modern technology, as wonderful as it is, certainly has had a negative effect on us humans physically.

There is no better time to evaluate your strategy to improve or at least maintain your current fitness level as we begin what I call the food-eating season. You know, the season that is kicked off by stealing our kids' Halloween candy (to check it for safety, of course), moving right into the Thanksgiving

feast through Christmas cookies and finally, the big New Year's eating, snacking and drinking, bring the food-eating season to a close with an average 10- to 12-pound weight gain. Checking out some of the new exciting fitness equipment either for home use or at your local health club might be a good start and we can combine exercise with some fun and efficient technology options.

To help you begin your review, let's categorize and outline cardiovascular equipment for you.

• **Treadmills** - Rate very high both in ease of use and cardiovascular workout efficiency. Walking is still the exercise of choice since it is relatively simple. Americans utilizing treadmills rose sharply from 4 million walkers in 1987 to 37.1 million in 1998.

• **Stair Steppers** - These units perform a stepping movement. Workout efficiency is high but ease of use is a little lower here since stepping is more difficult than walking. Stair stepper units have decreased in popularity over the last decade.

• **Stationary Bicycle** - High efficiency available with the bike and simple to use as well. Popularity has decreased with boredom being stated as the No. One reason. The new technology integration mentioned earlier could spice this up.

• **Elliptical Climbers** - This is the new kid-on-the-block and has unquestionably cornered a growing share of the exercise equipment market. According to the Sporting Goods Manufacturing Association, its popularity soared 61 percent, from 1997-98. This is a newer movement combining walking, running, bicycling and stair stepping all into a new low-impact motion called elliptical. There is a lot of variety with these units and they burn a lot of calories.

Each of these units have the technological integration available to make time on these units much more efficient and fun. As one client put it, "I can get caught up on the stock market, daily news and events and burn 300 calories doing it."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Water Wheel owner Chris Klebba tries out his health club's Exer-tainment system, peddling while "racing" a computerized bicycle on the screen.

Get your strategy ready now so you won't have to join the other 10- to 12-pounds heavier New Year's resolution makers and breakers, come the new millennium.

Chris Klebba, owner and operator of the Water Wheel Health Club and a certified personal fitness instructor wrote this column. For more information or for a free 14-day membership, call (248) 449-7634.

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Health Notes

Surgical Preparation

Through the Sally the Surgery Star program, children scheduled for surgery are taken on a tour and familiarized with the surgical experience. A variety of educational materials and supportive teaching tools are used to help children deal positively with the idea of a hospital stay.

Admission to the program is by appointment only. There is no charge. Call the Providence Medical Center-Providence Park at (248) 380-4170 to register.

Weight on the Run

Conducted by an exercise physiologist and a nutritionist, this 12-week program starts with a fitness assessment and nutritional consultation, followed by three weekly monitored workouts and weekly nutritional support. Day and evening classes are available.

A \$300 fee includes enrollment in the class "ABC of Weight Loss." For more information and to register, call (248) 473-5600.

Child Health Clinics

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics provide free ongoing well care for children from birth to school entry. Families who do not have an HMO or Medicaid may be eligible. Clinics are held at 12 locations throughout Oakland County.

Services include: Heights and weights; head-to-toe physical examination; immunizations; vision, hearing and lab testing; growth and developmental screening; and counseling with referrals to physicians and area resources as needed.

Appointment is required. For more information, call: North Oakland, Pontiac, (248) 858-1311 or 858-4001; South Oakland, Southfield: (248) 424-7066 or 424-7067; West Oakland, Walled Lake: (248) 926-3300; and Holly residents: 1-888-350-0900, extension 8-1311 or 8-4001.

Healthy Solutions Seminar

Healthy Solutions are offering a seminar series over the next few weeks.

All seminars are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. Please call (248) 305-5785 or stop in healthy solutions to reserve a seat (space is limited). You may show up the night of the seminar, however a seat may not be available.

Hot Flash Study

Women who suffer from multiple daily hot flashes associated with menopause are being sought to participate in a nationwide study to assess the safety and effectiveness of an investigational hormone replacement skin patch to treat hot flashes. Women may be eligible if they are between the ages of 45 and 65, have not had a menstrual period in six months, or a hysterectomy. For more information, call 493-6580.

Blood pressure checks

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park is offering free blood pressure checks Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 a.m.

Area residents are invited to visit Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, 47601 Grand River Ave., to obtain the service. Screening will take place in Providence's Emergency Care Center located within the center.

For more information call (248) 380-4225.

Food Allergy Counseling

Individuals with food allergies can receive counseling on food choices and substitutions from a Botsford Hospital professional. The fee is \$30.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (248) 477-6100.

Prostate Cancer Support Group

Offering knowledgeable speakers each month, this support group provides encouragement and education about prostate cancer, its treatment and the physical and emotional issues associated with it. It meets the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. and it's free.

Sessions take place in Botsford's 2 East A Conference Room, 28050 Grand River Ave., in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

Foot and ankle consultations

Experiencing heel pain, bunions, hammertoes, fungus nails, warts, ankle pain, ingrown nails or other foot ailments? The Foot Health Centers offer an initial consultation free of charge, excluding x-rays, lab tests or treatment. The Foot Health Centers, operated by Dr. Ken Poss and Dr. Randy Bernstein, are affiliated with Botsford, Sinai, Oakwood and Kern hospitals. They have two area locations, at 41431 W. Ten Mile Road in the Novi Plaza at Meadowbrook, and 30931 W. Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Call (248) 349-5559 or (248) 478-1166 for more information or to schedule a consultation.

Menopause Support Group

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park in Novi offers a free monthly support group for women who have concerns about menopause.

The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Providence Park Conference Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., at the corner of Grand River and Beck in Novi. The purpose of the support group is to provide women with educational information on topics relating to menopause.

For information, call (248) 424-3014.

MERCY PRIMARY CARE

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TAMMI COOPER, M.D.
Internal Medicine



ADRIAN SHEREMETA, M.D.
Internal Medicine and Geriatrics



SHERRIE TEFEND, M.D.
Internal Medicine



JEFF THE, D.O.
Internal Medicine